

AIR

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CONFIDENTIAL

22 April 1955

Chief, SR

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Operational

Test of Burial Packaging Materials

REF:

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1. In compliance with paragraph 2 of the above reference, [redacted] visited the offices of Identity A on 19 April 1955. Identity A is charged with caching activities within the Territory of Alaska and the Aleutian Chain.

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2. The possibility of burying in perma-frost was brought up and all agree that it is not only possible but that it has been carried out in certain localities with a large degree of success.

One of the main problems with perma-frost is that it is very difficult to dig utilizing hand tools. Another problem is that after digging down six or seven feet the perma-frost will start to thaw thus causing a mucky substance to form that is very hard to work with.

3. The military caching program is a continuous effort with new caches being made as needed and inspection of old caches being made two times a year.

Wherever possible Identity A is getting away from sub-surface caching due to difficulties that they are encountering with drainage of the sites. At the present time Identity A has less than ten sub-surface caching sites.

The main emphasis now is on the surface or above the surface caching sites utilizing buildings of log construction.

4. An interesting point that was brought out to [redacted] by Identity A personnel was that materials that were cached over two years ago below the surface have been checked and the containers show no signs of deterioration.

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5. Whenever this [redacted] is notified that a definite caching program is to be carried out in this area arrangements will be made for supporting the caching teams and obtaining sites for the activity.

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[redacted]

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Approved: [redacted]

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Attachment (separate cover):
Identity A

Distribution:
3-Headquarters

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